

**COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
AGREEMENT**

Between the

BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON

And the

**PENNINGTON BOROUGH POLICE
ASSOCIATION**

January 1, 2025- December 31, 2029

Revision Date:

Revision Date:

Scheduled Initialing Date:

Scheduled Second Read and Public Hearing:

see MJE

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PREAMBLE

AGREEMENT, made this 27th day of February, 2025 between Pennington Borough, hereafter referred to as the "Borough" or "Employer", and the Pennington Borough Police Association hereafter referred to as the "Association" or "Employee" or "Officers".

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ARTICLE I - RECOGNITION

1. The Borough hereby recognizes the Pennington Borough Police Association and the Hopewell Township Police Benevolent Association Local 342 as the exclusive representative for the collective negotiations concerning terms and conditions of employment for permanent Police Officers, Detectives and Sergeants of the Pennington Borough Police Department.
2. Specifically excluded from representation are the positions of Chief of Police, Captain, Lieutenant, School Crossing Guards, Public Safety Director, all civilian personnel and all probationary employees.

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ARTICLE II - MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

1. The Borough hereby retains and reserves unto itself all powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities conferred upon and vested in it prior to the signing of this Agreement by the laws and Constitution of the State of New Jersey and of the United States, including, but without limiting then generality of the foregoing, the following rights:
 - a. to hire all employees, and subject to the provisions of law, to determine their qualifications and the conditions for their continued employment and to promote and transfer all employees within the Police Department.
 - b. to suspend, demote, discharge or take disciplinary action for good and just cause.
 - c. to reduce force for economic reasons in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A-14. 143.
2. The exercise of the foregoing powers, rights, authority, duties and responsibilities of the Borough, the adoption of policies, rules, regulations, and practices in furtherance thereof, and use of judgment and discretion in connection therewith shall be limited only by express terms of this Agreement and then only to the extent such specific and express terms heretofore in conformance with the Constitution and the laws of the State of New Jersey, and the Constitution and laws of the United States.
3. Nothing contained herein shall be considered to deny or restrict the Borough of its rights, responsibilities, and authority under New Jersey Laws or any other national, state, county, or local laws or regulations.
4. It is understood that, under rulings of the Courts of New Jersey, the Borough is forbidden to waive any rights or powers granted it by law. Anything to the contrary notwithstanding anything contained in any section, paragraph, or sub-section of this Agreement shall not be interpreted in any manner or be construed as to indicate that the Borough had waived rights which are retained and expressly required by courts to be retained by the Borough.



ARTICLE III - POLICE OFFICERS' RIGHTS

1. The Borough agrees that every Police Officer shall have the right to freely organize, join and support the Association for the purpose of engaging in collective negotiations and other concerted activities for mutual aid and protection.
2. An elected representative shall be permitted reasonable time to investigate, attend, present and process grievances on Borough property without loss of time or pay during the representatives regular working hours, and off Borough property, or other than during the representatives regular working hours, without loss of time or pay or any other benefits the representative may be entitled to. Such time spent handling grievances during the representative's regular working hours shall be considered working hours in computing daily and/or weekly regular pay. Such time shall not be eligible for overtime pay.

There shall be a bank of twelve (12) hours total for each year, which shall not be cumulative and will be lost if not used in that calendar year to handle grievances and other labor related issues that must be handled within time constraints defined in Article IV of this Agreement. In the event that more than 12 hours of be compensable by the Borough. This time is granted with the understanding that the efficiency of the department is not affected and that no overtime is incurred.

3. A Police Officer has the same rights to engage in political activity as afforded to any citizen. The right to engage in political activity shall not apply to any Police Officer when they are on duty, when they are acting in their official capacity or when they are wearing the badge or uniform of the Pennington Borough Police Department.
4. Whenever a Police officer is under investigation or subjected to interrogation by a Law Enforcement agency for any reason related to their duties as a Pennington Borough Police Officer, the investigation or interrogation shall be conducted under the rules and guidelines established by the Attorney General of New Jersey in effect at that time.

ARTICLE IV - GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

1. For the purpose of this Agreement, a grievance is defined as a dispute between the Borough and any employee or employee group covered with respect to working conditions or alleged violation of a specific provision of the Agreement, provided that the term grievance shall not apply to:
 - a. any matter for which a method of review is prescribed by law, or
 - b. any matter which, according to law, is either beyond the scope of authority of the Borough of Pennington alone, or
 - c. a complaint of any employee which arises by reason of he or she not being re-employed.
2. Any grievance must be presented in writing within ten (10) working days after the aggrieved person knows or should have known of the event or events on which the claim is based or else such grievance is deemed waived. The written grievance shall specify:
 - a. the specific nature of the grievance and if a contract problem is claimed, the contract claims violated;
 - b. the results of previous discussions;
 - c. the date and time the grievance is submitted; the relief sought;
3. All employees covered under this Agreement shall have the right to present a grievance. Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, the grievance shall be processed as follows:

Step A: An appropriate Pennington Police Association representative, the aggrieved party and the Chief of Police reach a settlement of the dispute. If they shall fail to reach an agreement within ten (10) working days, the aggrieved party shall furnish a written statement for automatic reference to Step 8.

Step B: Within ten (10) working days after the grievance was presented and not resolved, the grievance will be reduced to writing and presented to the Borough Administrator for resolution informally. The aggrieved party shall meet with the Borough Administrator to attempt to settle the dispute within ten (10) working days of submission of the written statement. If an agreement cannot be reached, the grievance shall be referred to a grievance committee.

Step C: A grievance committee, consisting of two (2) members designated by the Pennington Police Association and all members of the Public Safety Committee, shall attempt to settle the dispute within ten (10) working days. If the dispute cannot be resolved, it will automatically be referred to Step D.

Step D - Binding Arbitration: One member of the Pennington Borough Police Association or its designated representative and the Chairman of the Public Safety Committee or its designated representative along with an arbitrator assigned by the New Jersey Public Employees Relation Commission (P.E.R.C.) shall decide the dispute at this level and the decision shall be final and binding.

For purposes of Article IV, "working day" means Monday through Friday, excluding holidays identified in Article XIX.

- 1. The costs for the services of the arbitrator, including per diem expenses, if any, and actual and necessary travel, subsistence expense, and the cost of the hearing room, if any, shall be borne equally by the Borough and the Association. Any other expenses incurred shall be paid by the party incurring same.

ARTICLE V - NEGOTIATIONS

- 1 Collective negotiations, with respect to the terms and conditions of employment shall be conducted by the authorized representatives of the Pennington Borough Council and the Pennington Borough Police Association and the Hopewell Township Police Benevolent Association Local 342.
2. Neither party shall have control over the selection of the negotiation's representatives of the other party, nor does each party agree that its representatives shall be empowered with all necessary authority to make proposals, consider proposals and make future counterproposals in the course of negotiations. It is understood that the final approval of the contract shall be made by adoption of an appropriate ordinance by the Pennington Borough Council and by majority affirmative vote of the members of the Pennington Borough Police Association.
3. Collective negotiations shall be held at times that are mutually convenient to the parties and at Borough facilities.

ARTICLE VI - DISCRIMINATION OR COERCION

There shall be no discrimination, interference, or coercion by the Borough or any of its agents against the Police Officers represented by the Association nor shall the Association or any of its agents intimidate or coerce Officers into membership. Neither the Borough nor the Association shall discriminate against any employee because of race, creed, color, age, sex, national origin, sexual orientation or veteran status.

ARTICLE VII - SAVINGS CLAUSE

In the event that any federal or state legislation, governmental regulation, or court decision causes invalidation of any Article(s) or Section(s) of this Agreement, all other Articles and Sections not so invalidated shall remain in force and effect, and the parties shall renegotiate concerning such invalidated Article(s) or Section(s) as appropriate.

ARTICLE VIII - DUES DEDUCTION

Any full-time employee working in the bargaining unit on the effective date of the Agreement who does not join the Union within thirty (30) days thereafter, and any new employee who does not join the Union within thirty (30) days of the date of his/her hire shall, as a condition of employment, pay a representation fee to the Bargaining unit by automatic payroll deduction. This fee shall be in an amount equal to eighty five percent (85%) of the regular Union membership dues, any initiation fee and assessments as certified by the Union to Pennington Borough.



ARTICLE IX - DATES OF COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS ELGIBILITY and CHANGES

DATES FOR DETERMINING SALARY INCREASES, EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT COMPENSATION, EMT COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS ELIGIBILITY

1. January 1 shall be used to determine certain benefits including, but not limited to:
 - a. Salaries for officers within the Class/Rank/Step(s) 1-8, Senior Patrolman, Sergeant, and Sergeant First Class shall be increased effective January 1. The pay step automatically adjusts on January 1 to the new yearly amount as shown in the salary guide table below (page 34) regardless of anniversary date. Newly hired officers shall not be eligible for salary increases until successful completion of the probationary employment period.
 - b. Vacation, holidays, sick time and all other entitlements that an Officer subject to this agreement is entitled to. Step increases shall be given on the officer's anniversary date.
2. The first year that an Officer earns Educational Achievement Compensation, the Compensation shall be pro-rated to the day the degree is awarded. For example, if an Officer is awarded a degree on June 30 of any given year, he shall receive 50% of the Compensation amount scheduled for that year.
3. The first year that an Officer earns an Emergency Medical Technician Certification and is eligible for EMT Compensation, the Compensation shall be pro-rated to the day the Certification is awarded. For example, if an Officer is awarded a Certification on June 30 of any given year, he shall receive 50% of the Compensation amount scheduled for that year. To be eligible for Compensation, the Officer must annually submit proof of Certification.
4. Because this agreement for 2025 — 2029 contains an upgraded and restructured salary guide and other benefit changes, it is understood by the parties to this agreement that police officers will receive salary and benefits following the same practices as those in effect as of 2024 until this contract is executed. All restructured salary and benefits specified in this agreement shall take effect retroactive to January 1, 2025.

Handwritten signature and initials, possibly "MJD" and "SPC", in the bottom right corner.

ARTICLE X - SENIORITY

1. Seniority is defined to mean accumulated time of police service as a Pennington Borough Police officer. The day an officer is sworn in as a Pennington Borough Police Officer is the date that his/her seniority begins,
2. Any Officer that voluntarily leaves and returns to the employment of Pennington Borough shall not retain any seniority from the previous dates of employment for Pennington Borough. Benefits shall accrue as if the Officer were a new first-time employee.

ARTICLE XI - DRIVER'S LICENSE

The work of the Pennington Borough Police Department requires that each Officer operate a motor vehicle. Each Officer must maintain a valid New Jersey driver's license and must present the same to the Chief of Police on an annual basis or when deemed necessary. Any changes in the Officer's driving record shall be reported immediately or as soon as possible to the Chief of Police. Failure to maintain a valid New Jersey driver's license or failure to notify the Chief of Police of any changes may result in disciplinary action being taken against the Officer including termination if warranted.

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ARTICLE XII - CALL BACK/CALL IN PAY FOR NON-SHIFT HOURS

Occasionally, an Officer may be called back to work after or called in to work before his/her shift is completed for the day. If this occurs, the Officer shall be guaranteed a minimum of two (2) hours pay at the Officer's overtime rate. If the Officer works more than two (2) hours, he/she will be paid for the extra time actually worked at his/her overtime rate. If the Officer is required to work beyond his/her shift, the Officer shall be paid for the actual extra time worked at his/her overtime rate.

ARTICLE XIII - MEETING PLACE

Pennington Borough shall permit the Association to use the Borough Municipal Building for its meetings, subject to availability as cleared through the Borough Clerk's office.

ARTICLE XIV - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT and EDUCATIONAL INCENTIVE .

Professional Development.

- a. Officers attending police training schools and or seminars which are authorized by the Chief of Police shall be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred, including reasonable costs of meals, tolls and mileage unless a Borough vehicle is provided.
- b. Mileage will be calculated based upon the current Internal Revenue Service rate.
- c. Actual tolls (receipts must be provided) will be reimbursed.
- d. Up to twelve dollars (\$12.00) for lunch (unless it is provided as part of the school or seminar) will be reimbursed (receipts must be provided).
- e. The cost of the actual training will be borne by the Borough of Pennington if the Chief of Police required the officer's attendance.
- f. Officers may attend training schools voluntarily and on their own time. All expenses incurred as a result of voluntary training is the responsibility of the Officer. Anyone who wishes to attend voluntary training must receive prior approval from the Chief of Police.

2 Educational Achievement Compensation

- a. Officers who have earned an Associate's Degree or a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice, Police Science, Psychology, Sociology, Communications, Human Services, or comparable degree shall receive additional compensation per year each calendar year.
- b. This additional compensation shall be reflected in:

ARTICLE XV- ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION and SALARIES; Section 1; TABLE

ONE: Educational Achievement Compensation of this agreement

- c. Educational Achievement Compensation shall be included in the regular salary and be considered part of the base pay.

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ARTICLE XVI- SURVIVOR'S BENEFIT CLAUSE

In the event of the death of an Officer, whether on duty or off, his/her estate shall be paid for the officer's accrued vacation days and sick leave in accordance with the cap schedule. Said payments for unused vacation time shall be made within sixty (60) days and within a timely fashion for accrued sick leave.

ARTICLE XVII - EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN PAY

Pennington Borough agrees to pay additional compensation to each Pennington Borough Police Officer who maintains a valid certification as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) issued by the State of New Jersey. Payment shall be part of the base salary. This Emergency Medical Technician Compensation shall be reflected in:

ARTICLE XVII-ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION and SALARIES: Section 2

TABLE Two: Emergency Medical Technician Compensation of this Agreement

Emergency Medical Technician Compensation shall be included in the regular salary and be considered part of the base pay. This payment shall be prorated based upon when the certification is obtained

Pennington Borough agrees to allow each Officer with a valid EMT certification to attend any and all courses needed to maintain this certification. The cost associated with these certifications and Continuing Education Units (C.E.U.s) shall be borne by the Officer receiving the premium. Personnel are permitted to attend any training and C.E.U.s during working hours with the approval of the Chief of Police. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

ARTICLE XVIII- MEAL PERIOD

Police Officers who work longer than four (4) hours shall be entitled to a thirty (30) minute meal period. It is understood that the meal period may be interrupted as needed.

ARTICLE XIX - OVERTIME

1. It is the prerogative of the Borough to determine the type of schedule that shall be worked. This will not prevent the administration from having the right to change the schedule to handle emergency situations.
2. In order to relieve Pennington Borough police officers from mandatory overtime requirements to cover patrol shifts, a Temporary Emergency Zone Coverage Agreement may be implemented. Temporary Emergency Zone Coverage, for the purposes of this clause only, shall be an unusual condition caused by shortages in the personnel of the police department, (e.g. vacancies, sickness or injury), where the safety of the public is endangered or imperiled as shall be determined by the Chief of Police and/or the Mayor.
3. An Officer who is authorized, directed or required to work longer than his/her work schedule requires shall be entitled to time and one half his/her normal rate of pay for any time worked above and beyond the daily work schedule. Payments will be made for actual time worked.
4. Overtime shall first be offered to the senior Officer on the off squad, then to the next senior Officer, etc.
5. Officers' regularly scheduled work shifts shall not be changed without fourteen (14) days' notice as determined by the Chief of Police.
6. The above paragraph does not apply to any emergency situation (as determined by the Chief of Police that requires personnel to report immediately.
7. Any Officer who works in excess of sixteen consecutive hours (16) shall be compensated at double time (2 time hourly rate) for all hours over the sixteen (16) hours.

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ARTICLE XX - HOLIDAYS

1. As agreed in previous contracts, any officer who works on a previously recognized holiday, which includes: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Day After Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day shall be compensated at his/her regular rate of pay, hour for hour. This compensation is reflected in the salary guide shown on pg. 34. In the event of future holiday designations, the salaries will be adjusted accordingly. No other holiday compensation consideration is reflected in this agreement.
2. Any officer who is scheduled off is required to work on their scheduled day off shall be compensated at the rate of time and a half.
3. When the Mayor or his/her designee declares a day of other paid leave to Borough employees, Officers on duty shall be granted additional leave on an hour-for-hour basis of straight time by the Head of the Police Department.

ARTICLE XXI - VACATIONS

1. Officers shall be entitled to vacation days with pay, according to the following schedule:

	After 1/1/2025
Year 1	10 days/120 hours prorated based on date of hire as follows: 1st quarter of year: 100% 2nd quarter of year: 75% 3rd quarter of year: 50% 4th quarter of year: 25%
Years 2-5	12 days (144 hrs.)
Years 6-10	15 days (180 hrs.)
Years 11-15	17 days (204 hrs.)
Years 16+	20 days (240 hrs.)

1. If any conflict arises in requests for vacation time, preference shall be given to the officer with the most seniority.
2. Up to 65% of one year's vacation allotment may be carried over in a given year. For example, an employee receiving 10 vacation days may carry over up to 6.5 days to the following year. If at the end of that year the employee has more than his/her original 10-day allotment remaining, he/she may still only carry over 6.5 days.

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ARTICLE XXII - FUNERAL (BEREAVEMENT) LEAVE

1. In the event of the death of any immediate family member, an Officer is entitled to five (5) days of paid bereavement leave. In event of the death for other family members, an Officer is entitled to three (3) days of paid bereavement leave.
2. Any Officer whose immediate family member dies is entitled to take up to ten (10) unpaid additional working days off before he/she must report back to duty.
3. In the event of the death of any other relative, the Officer shall be granted one (1) day of leave for the funeral, this time off shall come from time the officer has already accrued to be used as time off, example: vacation, holiday, sick, schedule accord days or time owed off by the department.
4. Bereavement leave for anyone other than a relative may be taken, but will be unpaid leave.
5. Immediate family member shall be defined as: spouse, child, stepchild. Other family members shall be defined as: mother, father, brother, sister, grandchildren, grandparents, stepparents, mother-in law and father-in-law.

ARTICLE XXIII - SICK TIME COMPENSATION

1. The sick time policy for the Pennington Police Association shall be as follows:
 - a. Each Officer earns nine (9) twelve-hour days of sick time per year.
 - b. Officers may accumulate up to sixty (60) twelve-hour days (the equivalent of ninety (90) eight-hour days).
2. Any Officer who does not use any sick time between January 1st and December 31st of any year within the duration of the Agreement shall receive One hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125) from the Borough of Pennington.
3. Officers may opt to have the Attendance Incentive (described above) deposited into their deferred compensation accounts. Officers may also opt to take the Attendance Incentive in one lump sum.
4. No employee shall receive compensation for unused sick time in excess of that permitted by P.L. 2010, c.3, § 2, effective May 21, 2010, or P.L. 2007, c. 92, par. § 43, effective June 8, 2007, as applicable to that employee.

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ARTICLE XXIV- PAID DETAIL SERVICE

1. Paid Detail Service shall be defined as services in the nature of special or private police duty, provided by Officers in their off-duty hours to individuals, groups, clubs, institutions and others who make payments for such services, and which services Pennington Borough is not obligated to provide as normal Police services.
2. Officers may engage in off-duty special work as defined above. Such work assignments shall be made by the Chief of Police with preference given according to seniority of Officers who are off-duty.
3. All requests for paid detail service shall be submitted through the Chief of Police.
4. No employee shall be required or compelled to work a special detail.
5. Paid detail service shall require a four (4) hour minimum,
6. All payments for paid detail service shall be made to the Borough of Pennington.
7. In the event that an Officer is working a Paid Detail Service without a Pennington Borough provided vehicle, the Borough shall not be entitled to their administrative charge (\$10.00 per hour) that they require from the entity requesting the Paid Detail Service.
8. Paid Detail Rates are shown in **ARTICLE XXVII -ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION and SALARIES: Section 3. TABLE THREE: Paid Detail Service** of this Agreement. These rates will be paid except for detail service involving a borough resident within the borough, which will be billed at a special duty rate of time and a half.
9. Officers hired for Memorial Day Parade, Pennington Day, and Holiday Walk events shall be paid a flat rate of \$70.00 per hour or their personal time-and-a-half hourly rate, whichever is higher. This includes hours worked for events contiguous to normal shift hours.

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ARTICLE XXV - UNIFORMS

1. The borough will provide an annual clothing allowance of \$1,000 for each officer to be held by the department subject to requisition. Officers will have discretion over this amount and are expected to maintain a full set of uniform clothing (2 pairs of pants, 2 short-sleeve shirts, 2 long-sleeve shirts, and one baseball-style cap) for regular service. All purchases, including special clothing needs or those exceeding the amount shown, must be approved by the Chief of Police and processed in accordance with the Borough's established requisition and purchasing procedures. Unused amounts shall revert back to the Police Dept.'s general budget.
2. In addition, the borough will provide each officer with a bulletproof vest upon hiring, and a full dress uniform following satisfactory completion of the probationary employment period of 12 months. Should an officer require a new issue of uniform or vest due to special circumstances or significant wear or damage, the Borough shall provide these as approved by the Chief.

ARTICLE XXVI - HEALTH BENEFITS

3. Benefits for Active Employees. All employees covered by this Agreement are entitled to health and prescription coverage under the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program ("State Program"), with employees having the option of selecting whatever program may be available under the State Program for themselves and their eligible dependents. These benefits are paid for by the Borough of Pennington subject to such contributions by the employee in effect upon full implementation of the contribution levels required by Chapter 2 of the Public Laws of 2010, Chapter 78 of the Public Laws of 2011 or such other contribution levels or deductions as are required by law hereafter.
4. Retirement Health Benefits. The Borough agrees to pay all or part of the premium or periodic charge for benefits under the State Program for certain retired employees who qualify based on length of service and other factors, as further provided below. As used below,

"Service credited in the retirement system" refers to service credited in a State- or locally- administered retirement system, which may include but need not be limited to years of service to the Borough.

- a. The Borough shall pay the full State Program premium or periodic charge for employees and dependents, but not including survivors, for all employees who have retired from employment by the Borough after January 1, 2010, and before June 28, 2011, if the employee retired on a benefit based on twenty-five (25) or more years of service credited in the retirement system.
- b. The Borough shall pay the full State Program premium or periodic charge for employees and dependents, but not including survivors, for all employees who had twenty (20) or more years of service credited in the retirement system on June 28, 2011 if (i) they thereafter retire from employment by the Borough on a benefit based on twenty-five (25) or more years of service credited in the retirement system and (ii) they were hired by the Borough before May 21, 2010.
- c. The Borough shall pay part of the State Program premium or periodic charge for employees and dependents, but not including survivors, for all employees who had less than twenty (20) years of service credited in the retirement system on June 28, 2011 if (i) they thereafter retire from employment by the Borough on a benefit based on twenty-five (25) or more years of service credited in the retirement system and (ii) they were hired by the Borough before May 21, [2011] 2010. The part of premium or periodic charge payable by the Borough shall be the full premium or periodic charge less such contributions by the employee and other deductions in effect upon full implementation of the contribution levels required by Chapter 2 of the Public Laws of 2010, Chapter 78 of the Public Laws of 2011 or such other contribution levels or deductions as are required by law hereafter.
- d. For employees hired by the Borough after May 21, 2010, the Borough shall pay part of the full State Program premium or periodic charge for employees and dependents, but not including survivors, for all employees who retire from employment by the Borough on a benefit based on twenty-five (25) or more years of service credited in the retirement system and twenty-five (25) or more years of service with the Borough. The part of premium or periodic charge payable by the Borough shall be the full premium or periodic charge less such contributions by the employee and other deductions in effect upon full implementation of the contribution levels required by Chapter 2 of the Public Laws of 2010, Chapter 78 of the Public Laws of 2011 or such other contribution levels or deductions as are required by law hereafter.

- e) The Borough does not agree to pay all or part of the State Program premium or periodic charges for employees who elect deferred retirement.
- f) To the extent required by law, the Borough agrees to pay all or part of the State Program premium or periodic charges for employees who retired on full disability pensions based upon fewer years of service credited in the retirement system or with the Borough than provided above, provided that the disability occurred while in the official line of duty and subject to such changes in law as may occur from time to time, unless any such change or changes in law grandfather existing contracts.
- g) For employees hired before January 1, 2021, the Borough's obligation to make payments as provided above shall include reimbursement of retired employees for their premium charges under Part B of the Federal Medicare Program covering the retired employees and their spouses as required by the regulations of the State Health Benefits Commission and otherwise by law, subject to such changes in law as may occur from time to time, unless any such change or changes in law grandfather existing contracts.
- h) The coverage offered to employees eligible to receive benefits paid for by the Borough as provided above shall be the prevailing health benefits plan coverage extended to active employees at the time of the employee's retirement.
- i) Coverage will be limited to the employee and specific dependents that are covered at the time of retirement and only to the extent that the retiree and those same dependents are eligible under the rules of the Plan for the type of coverage in effect at the time of retirement.
- j) No coverage will be provided during the period when medical coverage is furnished to the retiree from another source. The retiree is responsible for notifying Pennington Borough at the start of such coverage and its termination. If comparable coverage is available to the retired employee from another source without premium cost to retiree, the retiree is required to elect coverage from that source.
- k. A retired employee and/or spouse or legally recognized civil union partner and/or dependent eligible for Medicare coverage by reason of age or disability must coordinate benefits according to the State Program guidelines.
- l. It is the intent of this provision to mandate coverage under Medicare as soon as eligibility occurs. Evidence of enrollment in Medicare must be provided to the State Program. Failure to enroll in Medicare when eligible or required may result in the retiree's and/or dependent's coverage being terminated or delayed according to the State Program guidelines.
- m. The part of premium or periodic charge payable by the Borough shall be the full premium or periodic charge, subject to such contributions by the retired employee and other deductions in effect upon full implementation of the contribution levels required by Chapter 2 of the Public Laws of 2010, Chapter 78 of Public Laws of 2011 or such other contribution levels or deductions as are required by law hereafter.
- n. It is the intent of this Article on health benefits to comply with the conditions and limitations of Chapter 2 of the Public Laws of 2010 and Chapter 78 of the Public Laws of 2011 and such other changes in law as may occur from time-to-time hereafter, unless any such change or changes in law grandfather existing contracts. In the event of conflict between this Article and the requirements of law, the applicable law shall control.

ARTICLE XXVII - INJURY IN THE LINE OF DUTY

1. The Borough of Pennington will provide payments to an Officer injured in the line of duty and temporarily disabled in an amount equivalent to ninety (90) percent of such Officer's pay for a disablement period of up to fifty-two (52) weeks, provided that said officer is entitled to Workmen's Compensation. In no circumstance shall this benefit result in an Officer receiving a compensative take-home (net after deductions) amount that is greater than his/her non-benefit base take-home pay. The Borough shall have the right to monitor such benefits, payments, and compensation to insure equivalence of compensatory payments to base net take home pay.
2. Any Officer so paid agrees to make application immediately following such injury for Workmen's Compensation temporary disability benefits for such injury and to reimburse the Borough for the above payments by endorsing and delivering to the Borough said Workmen's Compensation checks immediately upon receipt thereof.
3. If after twenty-six (26) weeks the Officer is unable to return to duty he/she shall be required to present evidence by a certificate of a licensed physician of such inability. The Borough may reasonably require the Officer to present such certificate from time to time. Nothing contained in the Article shall bind the Borough to pay injury beyond fifty-two (52) weeks.
4. If the Borough does not accept the certificate of the physician, the Borough shall have the right, at its own cost, to require the Officer to obtain a physical examination and certification of fitness by a physician appointed by the Borough.
5. In the event the Borough physician certifies the Officer fit to return to duty, injury benefits granted under this Article can be terminated.
6. If the Borough can prove that an Officer has abused his/her privileges under this article, the Officer will be subject to disciplinary action by the Borough, up to and including termination.

ARTICLE XXVIII - SALARIES AND OTHER COMPENSATION

TABLE ONE: Educational Achievement Compensation

Associates Degree: \$775.00 Bachelor's Degree: \$1,650.00

The first year that an Officer earns Educational Achievement Compensation, the Compensation shall be pro-rated to the day the degree is awarded. For example, if an Officer is awarded a degree on June 30 of any given year, he/she shall receive 50% of the Compensation amount scheduled for that year.

TABLE TWO: Emergency Medical Technician Compensation

2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500

The first year that an Officer earns Emergency Medical Technician Compensation, the Compensation shall be pro-rated to the day the certification is awarded. For example, if an Officer is awarded a certification on June 30 of any given year, he/she shall receive 50% of the Compensation amount scheduled for that year.

TABLE THREE: Paid Detail Service* (Hourly rates)

2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100

* This is the amount actually paid to the Officer through the Borough. This amount shall be increased by \$10.00 if the Officer does not use a vehicle provided by the Borough, as set forth in Article XXIII, paragraph 8.

5. Base Salaries (Refer also to Article XV and Article XVII)

1. Newly hired officers in Class Rank 1 on the effective date of this agreement shall remain at present salary until satisfactory completion of the 12-month probationary period and all training and certification for full time police officers by the PTC, at which time he/she shall move from Class 1 to Class 2 at the Step corresponding to the year PTC certification is received.

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2. Any officer hereafter hired in Class/Rank 1 shall be hired at the Step corresponding to the year of hire and shall remain at that salary until satisfactory completion of training and certification for full time police officers by the PTC, at which time he/she shall move from Class 1 to Class 2 at the Step corresponding to the year PTC certification is received.
3. Each year, officers in Class/Ranks 1 through 8 shall advance to the next Class/Rank on the anniversary of his/her date of hire, at the Step corresponding to the year the anniversary occurs. Upon January 1, the pay step applicable to a promotion effective on an anniversary date during that year shall automatically adjust to the new yearly amount. Automatic advancement in this manner shall include advancement to the Class/Rank of Senior Patrolman, except officers in the Class/Rank of Senior Patrolman, after advancing to that Class/Rank, shall on January 1 of each subsequent year progress only to the Step for that year.
4. Advancement to the Class/Rank of Sergeant requires promotion. Opportunities for promotion shall not be limited to seniority only, but rather based on total qualifications and suitability. Upon satisfactory completion of the first twelve (12) months as Sergeant, the officer shall move into the position of Sergeant First Class at the salary and Step corresponding to the year of completion. During the first 12-month period an officer in the Class/Rank of Sergeant shall on January 1 of that year be advanced to the applicable Step for Sergeant for the new year. The Officer in the Class/Rank of Sergeant First Class shall on January 1 of each year thereafter advance only to the applicable Step for that year.
5. The Sergeant First Class Salary Guide shall be a minimum premium of eleven (11) percent above Senior Patrolman.
6. The sidebar agreement dated 1998 and known as the Schedule Accord/Pittman Schedule is hereby superseded and, except to the extent incorporated in this Agreement, shall have no further force or effect. The 72 hours of "schedule accord time" previously provided in the aforementioned agreement shall be eliminated in lieu of the Borough making a one-time add-on adjustment to the base salaries as set forth in the step/system/salary guide as agreed to by the parties. It is further acknowledged by the parties to this agreement that police officers work a 12-hour Pittman schedule and are compensated in conformance with the Fair Labor Standards Act Section 207L exemption, which sets forth that law enforcement personnel receive overtime after 2,184 hours per annum. It is further acknowledged that scheduling is the prerogative of the Chief of Police.
7. It shall be the prerogative of the Chief of Police to designate an Officer in Charge of the Department in the event the Chief takes a vacation of five days or more. In such event the designated Officer in Charge shall be compensated \$50.00 per day for each day he/she serves in the role of Officer in Charge.
8. It shall be the prerogative of the Chief of Police to designate a police officer as Detective pursuant to rules issued by the Chief of Police. The rules promulgated by the Chief shall specify the duties, responsibilities, and qualifications of the position. Detectives so designated shall receive in addition to their regular pay a stipend of \$1,500 for the 12-month probationary period and \$2,500 per year thereafter, as determined by the anniversary date of service.

Salary guide is shown on following page:

Class/Rank	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
1 (Academy Rate)	\$44,752	\$46,095	\$47,447	\$48,902	\$50,369
2	\$59,929	\$61,727	\$63,579	\$65,486	\$67,451
3	\$68,550	\$70,607	\$72,725	\$74,906	\$77,154
4	\$73,756	\$75,969	\$78,248	\$80,595	\$83,013
5	\$78,961	\$81,330	\$83,770	\$86,283	\$88,871
6	\$84,347	\$86,877	\$89,484	\$92,168	\$94,993
7	\$90,332	\$93,042	\$95,833	\$98,708	\$101,669
8	\$95,814	\$98,688	\$101,649	\$104,699	\$108,840
Sr. Patrolman	\$103,594	\$106,702	\$109,903	\$113,200	\$117,521
Sergeant	\$109,259	\$112,537	\$115,913	\$119,390	\$122,972
Sergeant 1st Class	\$114,914	\$118,362	\$121,913	\$125,570	\$129,338
Officer-in- Charge (OIC)*	+11%	+11%	+11%	+11%	+11%

*Officers with a full-time OIC appointment will receive an 11% adjustment to their rank/step salary rate. For example, a Sergeant First Class appointed as full-time OIC in 2025 would his/her salary adjusted from \$114,914 to \$127,555.

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ARTICLE XXVIII - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

This agreement incorporates the entire understanding of the parties in all matters, which are or could have been the subject of negotiations. During the term of the Agreement neither party shall be required to negotiate with respect to any other matter, whether or not covered by this Agreement or whether or not within the knowledge or contemplation of either or both of the parties at the time they negotiated or executed this Agreement, except as required by law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be signed by their respective representatives, and their corporate seals to be place heron.

PENNINGTON BOROUGH POLICE
ASSOCIATION

Local 342
Hopewell Township Police Benevolent Association

Date: _____

Novin Thomas
Local 342
Hopewell Township Police Benevolent Association

Date: _____

BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON



James Davy
Mayor, Pennington Borough

Date: _____



GP Caminiti, Borough Administrator

Date: _____